

Attorney Docket No. MP/85C

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Campbell et al.
Appl. No. : 09/510,937
Filed : 2/22/00
Title : Thin-Wall Polytetrafluoroethylene Tube

*I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark
Office on March 19, 2002.*

Melanie Williams
Melanee Williams

Group Art Unit : 1653
Examiner : Mohamed, A.

Honorable Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116**

Sir:

The following is in response to the office action of September 20, 2001.

I. PRELIMINARY REMARKS

The present application is a continuation of parent US 6,027,779 (SN 08/247,960), which is a CIP of US 6,025,044 (SN. 08/204,708), which is a CIP of US 6,159,565 (SN. 08/108,963). The issued patents are referred to hereinafter as the parent patents.

The necessary petition for an extension of time is submitted herewith. A continuing application is being filed as well.

II. APPLICANTS' INVENTION

The present invention relates to a catheter balloon made of porous expanded polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) provided with a non-porous coating over the porous PTFE. The coating renders the balloon non-porous. The thinness, flexibility and strength of the construction allow the resulting balloon to be collapsed to a small first diameter for insertion into the vasculature to a desired location at which it can be inflated to the maximum diameter of the tube in the fashion of a conventional polyethylene terephthalate (PET) catheter balloon. The balloon of the present invention is superior to such conventional balloons again due to its flexibility, thinness, strength and lubricious materials.